

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB

15 January 1982



The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
Parliament Street
LONDON
SW1

Agreed
subject to the
Chancellor.
RIS

Dea Scobey

MR ROBERT BROOK. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL BUS COMPANY

I am writing to seek your agreement and that of our colleagues on E Committee to a change, which would be within the scope of our present policy and practice, in the basis on which the salary of Mr Robert Brook the Deputy Chairman of the National Bus Company, is determined.

When the concept of personal salary ranges for Board members was introduced some years ago, the NBC opted to retain the system of fixed point salaries for their Board. There was, perhaps, little to choose between the two systems under the former regime in which progress within a personal range was more strictly controlled. But, as you know, those controls have now been removed, with the result that the NBC is left with far less room for manoeuvre than that enjoyed by other comparable Boards, not least their own direct counterparts North of the Boarder, the Scottish Transport Group, whose members are, we understand, already on personal ranges.

I do not want to make a case for a general change in the basis on which the salaries of existing NBC Board members are determined, but Mr Brook has just started a new five year term as Deputy Chairman as from 1 January 1982 and I feel that this

would be an appropriate point at which to agree that he should in future be placed on a personal range. I would propose that this range should run from his present salary of £30,235 a year to a current maximum of £33,705 - figures which represent an increase of 7% on the top half of the Deputy Chairman scale applying before 1 April 1981 to the TSRB group to which the NBC formerly belonged. This is the range within which, for this Group of Boards, we would normally expect a Deputy Chairman to be paid after successfully completing, as Mr Brook has done, a first five-year term in that post.

I would not envisage that Mr Brook should receive any immediate increase as a result of this change, but I would make it clear to the Chairman that it was open to him, acting in consultation with the part-time members, to move Mr Brook to a higher salary within the range once he had completed the first year of his new term. I know that the Chairman thinks highly of Mr Brook - an opinion which I share - and I am sure that he would wish to make use of the greater flexibility which such a personal range would provide.

I hope that you and our colleagues will feel able to agree to this change which will bring Mr Brook into line with others holding similar posts of responsibility on other Boards.

I am copying this letter to all members of E Committee.

Gan u

David

DAVID HOWELL



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CC 50

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG
01-233 3000

26 January 1982

The Rt. Hon. David Howell MP
Secretary of State for Transport

David

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL BUS COMPANY

You wrote to me on 15 January proposing that, following his reappointment, Mr Robert Brook's salary should be on a personal scale running from his present salary, £30,235 to a maximum of £33,705.

I am content with your proposal. I note that you do not envisage any immediate increase in salary for Mr Brook.

I hope that you will impress upon the Chairman of the NBC that movement through a salary range is intended to reward individual good performance, not to maintain relativities with Members of other boards where different criteria may apply.

Copies of this letter go to the other recipients of yours.

GEOFFREY HOWE

[Handwritten signature]

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

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18 January 1982 HO

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(cc: Mr. Vercher)

CSO HMU
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Dear Anthony,

Mr. Robert Brook: Deputy Chairman of the National Bus Company

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's letter of 15 January to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which he proposes a change in the basis on which the salary of Mr. Robert Brook, the Deputy Chairman of the National Bus Company, is determined.

The Prime Minister agrees with this change, subject to the views of her colleagues.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the other members of E Committee.

Anthony Mayer, Esq.,
Department of Transport

CONFIDENTIAL

DSG



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cc JV
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2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref: H/PSO/10314/82

Your ref:

29 January 1982

Handwritten scribble

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 15 January to Geoffrey Howe about the salary arrangements for Mr Brook of the National Bus Company.

I have no objection to your proposal to place Mr Brook on a personal salary range on the basis you set out.

I am copying this letter to members of E Committee.

Handwritten signature

MICHAEL HESELTINE



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